

LEADER GUIDE

for SPLASH 2: Discipleship by Ken Hemphill

About the Bible Study Author

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Leader guide written by Judi Hayes and is intended to be used with SPLASH 2: Discipleship by Ken Hemphill.

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Introduction of the Study

A Personal Discipling Strategy (SPLASH 2)

What most churches are doing today for discipleship is not working. Consider a new personalized strategy that will train those leading someone to Christ to begin the discipling process. The acrostic for *SPLASH 2* stands for *Scripture*, *Prayer*, *Love*, *Accountability*, *Stewardship*, and *Heart*.

SPLASH 2 follows the Ken and Paula Hemphill's first SPLASH book that offered a way for believers to introduce friends and family to Jesus and to impact their communities (Splash Zone) for the kingdom of God. To think daily about our kingdom impact requires most of us to experience an internal culture change, a daily way of living that answers the question, "Who am I impacting for the kingdom at this moment?"

As you prepare to lead this study, pray for those who are asking themselves that question and intentionally making talking about Jesus a part of their daily lives. People who are living in the Splash Zone are reaching people for Jesus Christ. Once they experience the joy of leading others to Jesus, they are asking, "What do I do now?" *SPLASH 2* is all about helping new believers to become growing disciples. This study gives disciplers the basic information to share with new believers. It uses a format that lets them ask questions and explore ways to communicate basic Christian beliefs to those they are discipling. At the end of this study, they will have confidence and excitement about helping people grow toward maturity as God's kingdom people.

SPLASH 2 is a seven-week study (including the introductory session), which can be taught in a thirteen-week quarterly format by teaching each of the SPLASH 2 sessions in two segments each.

Session 1 | Introduction YOU CAN BE A GROWTH COACH

Before the Session

- 1. Make a name tag for yourself. Provide pens or felt-tip markers and name tags for participants.
- 2. Read *SPLASH 2* in its entirety to understand the purpose, content, and direction of the study. Read the "During this Session" section of this leader's guide to prepare for this week's session.
- 3. Provide copies of *SPLASH 2* for all participants, plus any additional material you choose to use as outlined in the "During this Session" section.
- 4. Provide a whiteboard or flipchart and markers or chalkboard and chalk.
- 5. Option: When guests arrive, have a home video of children playing in water, in a small pool or in the ocean.

- 1. As participants arrive, introduce yourself and ask them to pick up a name tag and book. Instruct participants to share with one another a memorable time when they splashed in the water—in the backyard, in a swimming pool, lake, or ocean.
- 2. Begin the session by welcoming participants. Invite a few volunteers to share their splashing in the water experiences. Point out that most people enjoy splashing in the water. They become like children having fun. They find the experience uplifting and refreshing, satisfying. Transition by saying that making the kingdom of God the center of your daily life and sharing Jesus with people who do not know him offers excitement to everyday living that is even more refreshing and satisfying than a day at the beach.
- 3. Lead an opening prayer. Pray that participants will reach people for Christ and walk with them as they come disciples.
- 4. Provide a brief overview of the *SPLASH* and *SPLASH* 2 material. Explain that this session is an introduction to the *SPLASH* 2 study. Write on a board vertically the letters SPLASH and the number 2. Beside the letters write: *Scripture*, *Prayer*, *Love*, *Accountability*, *Stewardship*, *Heart*. Tell members that during this seven- (or thirteen-) week study they will learn how to talk with new believers about these six subjects. Explain that the 2 means that this is the second book in the *SPLASH* series. The first book offered a way for believers to introduce friends and family to Jesus and to impact their communities for the kingdom of God. In that book the SPLASH acrostic stood for *Show People Love And Share Him*. Write this sentence on the board.
- 5. Briefly share information from the introduction to *SPLASH 2*, "You Can Be a Growth Coach." Ask participants to turn in their books to "Seven Reminders." Invite volunteers to read each of the seven statements aloud. Comment briefly as appropriate.
- 6. Ask participants to form six small groups. Assign one group Matthew 9:35–10:42. Instruct this group to read this passage and explain how it is a model for the SPLASH experience. Assign each of the other groups one of these words: *Embody*, *Evaluate*, *Equip*, *Examine*, and *Encourage*. Direct them to this content in the *SPLASH 2* book. Tell

them to prepare to tell other why their e-word is essential; if possible, relate it to Matthew 9:35–10:42; and give an example applying this word to the discipling process. Let groups give their reports, affirming and commenting after each report is given.

- 7. Direct participants to read the "Introduction: You Can Be a Growth Coach" and chapter 1, "Scripture" before the next session.
- 8. Invite participants to ask any questions they may have regarding the study discussions during this session and any questions they have about the SPLASH 2 study.
- 9. Ask participants to think about the people they hope to help grow as disciples. Invite volunteers to share briefly about someone they have in mind for the discipleship process. Lead in a closing prayer asking God to help participants as they prepare to disciple new believers.

Session 2 | Chapter 1 SCRIPTURE

Before the Session

- 1. Pray for each participant by name. Ask God to help each person set aside the time needed to prepare for the study and to engage fully as they read *SPLASH 2* and participate in the session.
- 2. Reread the introduction and chapter 1, "Scripture" of *SPLASH 2*. Ask God to reveal Bible passages, explanations, questions, and/or items of interest that will connect with and benefit individuals in your group.
- 3. Bring a few sheets of Post-It note paper and pens for each participant.
- 4. Provide a whiteboard or flipchart and markers or chalkboard and chalk.
- 5. Make a name tag for yourself. Provide pens or felt-tip markers and name tags for participants.
- 6. Write the word *Scripture* in the center of a piece of poster board or a large piece of paper. Large construction paper will work fine. Place the poster on a focal wall where a number of people can gather.
- 7. In advance enlist three people to report on the three topics under "Essential Truths about Scripture": (1) The Bible is God's revelation to man. (2) The Bible is inspired. (3) The Bible is trustworthy.
- 8. Make copies for each participant of "God's Word Is Powerful" at the end of this session. Provide scissors.
- 9. Bring a variety of Bibles, including at least one of each of the three types discussed in this chapter.

During This Session

- 1. As participants arrive, give each a few sheets of Post-It notepaper and a pen. Instruct them to write one reason to study the Bible on each sheet of paper.
- 2. Welcome everyone and pray for God's guidance during the session, that participants will be equipped and inspired to talk with new believers about the Bible and the privilege of reading and studying it daily.
- 3. Invite participants to complete this sentence, *The Bible is* . . .

Choose a few of the notes participants wrote and posted when they arrived, and read those aloud. Affirm answers.

Ask those you have enlisted in advance to give their reports on "Essential Truths about Scripture."

After the reports, call for questions. Then give a brief lecture on "What about all the contradictions in the Bible."

4. Transition by saying that when discipling someone they should be prepared to address challenges about God's Word but they should focus on the power of God's Word rather than on criticisms.

Give each participant a copy of "God's Word Is Powerful." Ask volunteers to read the five Scripture passages. Instruct participants to cut apart the five lines and place one at each Scripture reference. Having all five references at each Scripture will help them direct new believers to all five truths about God's Word.

5. Lead a discussion about "Getting Started." Answer questions about leading people to read and study the Bible.

Ask participants to tell about their favorite Bible, which translation or paraphrase they use, and why they like the Bible they have chosen. Ask them to show how they have marked favorite Scriptures.

After several have told about their own Bibles, show them your Bible and how you use and why you have chosen it.

Move into a brief lecture on the three types of Bibles discussed in this chapter: word-for-word/literal/formal equivalence translation, dynamic equivalence/thought-for-thought translation, and paraphrase.

Ask the group to name some familiar and favorite passages of Scripture. List ten or twelve passages. Write them on the board. Distribute the various types of Bibles and ask the people with various translations and paraphrases to find the first Scripture passage. (Some people may have brought additional translations or paraphrases. Include them in this exercise.) Ask someone with a Bible from each of the three types to read that passage. Repeat this with the other selections. Do this several times. Continue until every translation or paraphrase has been used at least once. Use translations multiple times as needed

Use all of the familiar passages in a short Bible drill. When you say, "Attention," participants will stand in a line with their Bibles in their right hand and their hand at their sides. When you say, "Draw swords," they will bring their Bibles to a horizontal position in front of them, ready to find the Scripture you announce. Say each Scripture and give the command to "Go." Affirm their familiarly with the Bible and tell them that is their goal with those they are discipling.

- 6. Briefly lecture on the content in "Help them to become familiar with their Bible" and "The Big Picture."
- 7. Lead a discussion about how to work with someone who is unfamiliar with the Bible. Invite participants to ask questions, and encourage them to answer one another's questions, sharing their own experiences.
- 8. Remind participants to read chapter 2, "Prayer," before the next session.
- 9. Close in prayer.

God's Word Is Powerful			
1	Isaiah 55:10-11	The Word will accomplish God's purpose.	
2	Psalm 19:105	The Word will provide guidance.	
3	Romans 1:16	The Word is the power for salvation.	
4	2 Timothy 3:16-17	The Word teaches, rebukes, corrects, and directs.	
5	Hebrews 4:12	The Word judges our thoughts and attitudes.	

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Session 3 | Chapter 2 PRAYER

Before the Session

- 1. Pray for each participant by name. Ask God to help each person set aside the time needed to prepare for the study and to engage fully as they read *SPLASH 2* and participate in the session.
- 2. Read chapter 2, "Prayer" of *SPLASH 2*. Ask God to reveal Bible passages, explanations, questions, and/or items of interest that will connect with and benefit individuals in your group.
- 3. Provide paper and pens for small groups to write definitions of prayer.
- 4. Consider giving everyone a notebook to use as a prayer journal.

During This Session

- 1. Make a name tag for yourself. Provide pens or felt-tip markers and name tags for participants.
- 2. As participants arrive, ask them to talk with one another about their earliest memories of prayer. Did they memorize a nighttime prayer, such as "Now I lay me down to sleep" or a mealtime prayer? Did they learn to sing a familiar prayer?
- 3. After everyone has arrived, welcome everyone and voice a prayer.
- 4. Invite participants to share some of their childhood prayers or memories of prayer. Call for group responses. Tell the story about the Hemphills' children. Offer the definition of prayer as "conversation with your heavenly Father."
- 5. Briefly lecture on "The Priority of Jesus." As you lecture, enlist volunteers to read selected Scripture verses from Mark 1 (vv. 18, 28, 37b, 38). You may also want to ask someone to read Matthew 26:26-41.
- 6. Direct participants to form small groups of three or four. Give each group paper and pencil and ask them to write a simple definition of *prayer*.
- 7. Ask, Why do we pray in Jesus' name? Encourage discussion. Add comments as needed from the book and your own knowledge and experience.
- 8. Write vertically on the board the word ACTS. Tell the group that this is an acrostic for one way to pray. Write beside the letters the words *Adoration*, *Confession*, *Thanksgiving*, and *Supplication*. Define supplication for the group. Invite participants to give examples of each type of prayer.

Invite members to think about the Lord's Prayer. Ask, Which phrases of the Lord's Prayer match the types of prayer in the ACTS model? Write these on the board.

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- 9. Assign verses from "Prayer Promises that Encourage Us to Pray." Ask those assigned to read aloud the verses. Ask participants to turn to the page in their copies to *SPLASH 2* where these promises are found. Suggest that each person select one or two of these verses to memorize in the translation given in the book or one of their own choosing.
- 10. Lead a discussion about using prayer with those participants are discipling. Discuss ways to link prayer and Bible study.
- 11. Remind participants to read chapter 3, "Love," before the next session.
- 12. Dismiss by saying together the Lord's Prayer.

Session 4 | Chapter 3

LOVE

Before the Session

- 1. Pray for each participant by name. Ask God to help each person set aside the time needed to prepare for the study and to engage fully as they read *SPLASH 2* and participate in the session
- 2. Read chapter 3, "Love" of *SPLASH 2*. Ask God to reveal Bible passages, explanations, questions, and/or items of interest that will connect with and benefit individuals in your group.
- 3. Provide pens. Make copies of "I Love..." at the end of this session for all participants.
- 4. In advance enlist someone to deliver a monologue about the good Samaritan from Luke 10:30-37. The focus will be on the question, Who is your neighbor? The person you enlist can tell the story from any perspective, real or imaginary: the victim, the innkeeper, the innkeeper's wife, or the good Samaritan.

During This Session

- 1. Make a name tag for yourself. Provide pens or felt-tip markers and name tags for participants.
- 2. As participants arrive, give them a copy of "I Love..." Direct them to get other participants to write one thing or person they love and to sign their names. Tell them that no two people can write the same thing on a person's sheet.
- 3. Welcome everyone. Invite them to share what some people wrote on their "I Love..." sheet. Voice a prayer to begin the session.
- 4. Ask, Did anyone write on the opening exercise that they love God? Lead a discussion on what it means to love God.

Enlist someone to read Mark 12:28-31. Ask, In what four ways are we to love God? How are we to love our neighbor?

Ask participants to form four groups. Assign each of the groups one way we are to love God: heart, soul, mind, and strength. Instruct the groups to brainstorm ways we can love God in their assigned area. Encourage them to use their books and their own knowledge and experience. Tell them to prepare to report to the large group.

5. Call for the monologue about the good Samaritan. (If you did not enlist anyone to do this, read the story from Luke 10:30-37. Note that this story follows the giving of the Great Commandment in Luke's Gospel. After the monologue lead a discussion about who our neighbor is in the world today. Ask the group to brainstorm people in your community who may feel unloved. List these groups on the board. Now ask the group to think about times they come in contact with a member of one of the groups listed. Ask, How can we show love to these people as we go about our daily lives as members of God's kingdom?

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- 6. Lead a discussion about how to communicate the Great Commandment to new believers.
- 7. Ask for volunteers to read the following Scriptures: Matthew 6:21, 33; Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 5:22-23; 2 Timothy 2:15; 1 John 4:20. Call for them one at a time so everyone can look up each verse in their own Bibles. Suggest that everyone select one or two of these and memorize them.
- 8. As you close, remind participants to read chapter 4, "Church," before the next session.
- 9. Invite participants to share prayer concerns for the people they are discipling as well as for other people they love.
- 10. Close in prayer.

I Love . . .

Session 5 | Chapter 4

ACCOUNTABILITY

Before the Session

- 1. Pray for each participant by name. Ask God to help each person set aside the time needed to prepare for the study and to engage fully as they read *SPLASH 2* and participate in the session
- 2. Read chapter 4, "Accountability" of *SPLASH 2*. Ask God to reveal Bible passages, explanations, questions, and/or items of interest that will connect with and benefit individuals in your group.

- 1. Make a name tag for yourself. Provide pens or felt-tip markers and name tags for participants.
- 2. As participants arrive, ask them to form small groups of three or four. Instruct them to share with small-group members about the first church they joined and the story of how they came to be members of your church. Let each group select one or two people to tell one of their stories to the large group.
- 3. Welcome everyone. Invite individuals to share the stories selected by their small groups. Voice a prayer to begin the session.
- 4. Tell members to stay in their small groups and to write a definition of church. Tell them to write their definition on a large piece of paper and, when they are finished, to place it on the wall for everyone to see.
- 5. Let a representative of each group read that group's definition of church aloud. After all definitions have been shared, lead a discussion about what is important from these definitions to share with the people they are discipling. Encourage participants to continue brainstorming what they want the people they are discipling to know about church. Encourage them to share more than facts, the real heart of the church. Invite them to share stories about why church is an essential part of their lives.
- 6. Briefly lecture on what church meant to Jesus. Ask the group to listen for similarities to their own discussion about church characteristics.
- 7. Ask participants to turn in their copies of *SPLASH 2* to "Characteristics of a Great Church" in chapter 4. Ask volunteers to read the seven characteristics listed. After each statement is read, lead a discussion about how that characteristic has been discussed and how well it describes your church.
- 8. Enlist volunteers to read the following verses while all follow along in their Bibles: Acts 1:8; Hebrews 10:25; and 1 John 1:3-4. Suggest that participants memorize at least one of these verses.
- 9. Call for comments and questions regarding talking with new believers about church.
- 10. Remind participants to read chapter 5, "Stewardship," before the next session.
- 11. Close in prayer.

Session 6 | Chapter 5 STEWARDSHIP

Before the Session

- 1. Pray for each participant by name. Ask God to help each person set aside the time needed to prepare for the study and to engage fully as they read *SPLASH 2* and participate in the session.
- 2. Read chapter 5, "Stewardship" of *SPLASH 2*. Ask God to reveal Bible passages, explanations, questions, and/or items of interest that will connect with and benefit individuals in your group.
- 3. Make five large posters. In the center of each, write one of these words: *Temple*, *Time*, *Talents*, *Testimony*, and *Treasure*. Place these on the wall around the room. Participants will write on these. Make sure the materials you use protect the walls.
- 4. In advance enlist participants you know can give a testimony about one of the five areas of stewardship: temple, time, talents, testimony, and treasure.
- 5. In advance enlist someone to read or share the content from Matthew 25:14-30.

- 1. Make a name tag for yourself. Provide pens or felt-tip markers and name tags for participants.
- 2. As participants arrive, give them pencils or pens. Point out that the five posters around the room represent areas of life where we can be stewards. Tell everyone to write on the posters ways we can be stewards in each of the areas.
- 3. Welcome everyone. Voice a prayer to begin the session.
- 4. Ask: Which area was easiest to list ways to be a steward? Which area was most difficult to list ways to be a steward? Which of the areas is easiest to do? Which is most difficult? Why?
- 5. Direct participants to form five groups. Assign each group one of the five stewardship areas: temple, time, talents, testimony, and treasure. Ask each group to plan a way of talking with someone they are discipling about that area of stewardship. Instruct them to prepare a role play for two people, the discipler and the one being discipled to talk about their assigned topic. Direct them to use content from *SPLASH 2* and from the Bible in preparing their role play. Tell them the role play should be no more than three minutes. Allow groups to share their role plays and discuss as needed. Affirm the work of each group. Allow others to add ideas about each topic. As each report is shared, call for the enlisted testimonies.
- 6. Briefly lecture on the biblical basis for stewardship. As you lecture, call for volunteers to read such Scriptures as Isaiah 46:9-10; Genesis 1:26; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15; and others you may use.
- 7. Call for the person enlisted to read or tell about Matthew 25:14-30. Lead a discussion of this parable using the points in *SPLASH 2*.

- 8. Enlist volunteers to read the following verses about stewardship while all follow along in their Bibles: Malachi 3:10; Matthew 6:32-33; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 3:10; 1 Corinthians 12:7; Ephesians 5:15-16. Suggest that participants memorize at least one of these verses.
- 9. Remind participants to read chapter 6, "Heart," before the next session.
- 10. Ask participants to silently reflect on one area of stewardship in which they would like to grow. Voice a prayer for God to help them grow in that area.

Session 7 | Chapter 6

HEART

Before the Session

- 1. Pray for each participant by name. Ask God to help each person set aside the time needed to prepare for the study and to engage fully as they read *SPLASH 2* and participate in the session.
- 2. Read chapter 6, "Heart" of *SPLASH 2*. Ask God to reveal Bible passages, explanations, questions, and/or items of interest that will connect with and benefit individuals in your group.
- 3. Make a large red heart and place it on a poster with these words: *God's Heart*.
- 4. Provides pens and paper for small groups.

- 1. Make a name tag for yourself. Provide pens or felt-tip markers and name tags for participants.
- 2. As participants arrive, direct them to form small groups of four or five. Give each group a pen and a piece of paper. Tell them to read Genesis 1:27 and list ways we are created in God's image.
- 3. Welcome everyone. Voice a prayer to begin the session.
- 4. Invite small groups to share some ways we are created in God's image. Point out that God said that his creation, including humans, was good. Point out that our topic this week is "heart." The goal of kingdom people is to have a heart like God's. What is a heart like God's?
- 5. Form six groups and make these assignments to the groups: (1) God's Love for His Own Creation; (2) The Impact of Sin; (3) God's Redemptive Plan; (4) A Covenant People; (5) The Rest of the Story; (6) Membership Presupposes Mission. Ask the groups to prepare for one group member to explain this part of this chapter as if they were telling someone they are discipling, a fairly new believer. Call for groups to give their reports. After each, affirm their work, and call for others to add content or ask questions. Ask them how what was shared would impact someone they are discipling.
- 6. Affirm the work of the group in their study of *SPLASH 2*. Suggest that participants find ways to continue their work in growing as a disciple in order to help others grow. Let the group suggest ways they can continue to grow. If no one in the group suggests it, you may want to suggest that they from partners or small groups to hold one another accountable and to pray for one another.
- 7. Point out the red heart. Tell participants that they can show their commitment to seek God's passion, to have a heart like his, by signing their names in the heart as they leave. Close in prayer, thanking God for this group and asking his blessings on them as they seek to splash his love on others wherever they go.